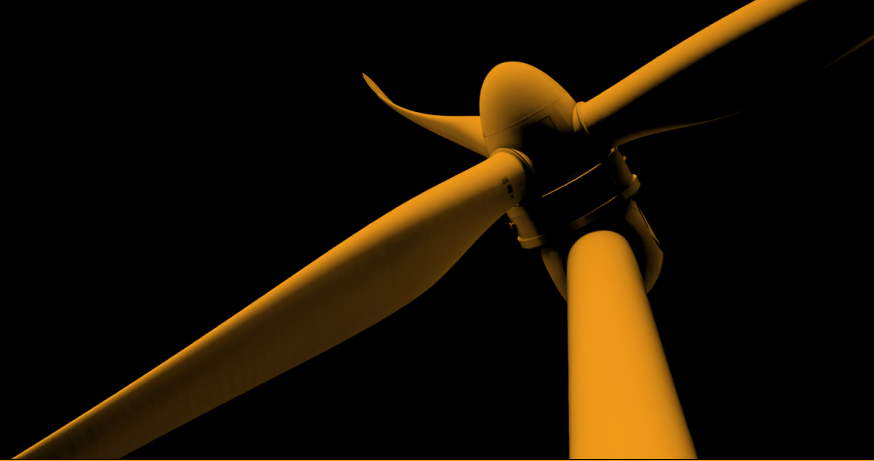


# Aquila Wind

Renewable Energy from ACEN



## Questions and Answers

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### What is the Aquila Wind Project?

ACEN Australia is proposing the development of the Aquila Wind energy project with up to 48 wind turbines, located near Mount Aquila, approximately 5 km southeast of the township of Stuart Town in Dubbo Regional Council Local Government Area.

### Why was the area chosen?

Wind monitoring in the region has confirmed the site has an excellent wind resource, suitable for development of a wind energy project.

### Why is the project important?

Aquila Wind will help Australia transition towards achieving net zero carbon emissions, while delivering low-cost renewable energy and employment opportunities for the Central West region of New South Wales.

### What is the Project's Approvals Pathway?

The project is considered State Significant Development pursuant to the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 and will be subject to a rigorous assessment process.

The NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) is the responsible State planning authority for the project. A range of assessments and site surveys will be undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This information will be lodged with the DPHI as part of the Development Application. ACEN Australia will require Development Approval from the DPHI before the project can proceed to construction and operation.

## At a glance



up to  
**48**  
wind  
turbines



Employ and  
buy local  
commitment



Shared benefits  
through  
community  
benefit funding



Power up to  
160,000 average  
Australian  
homes

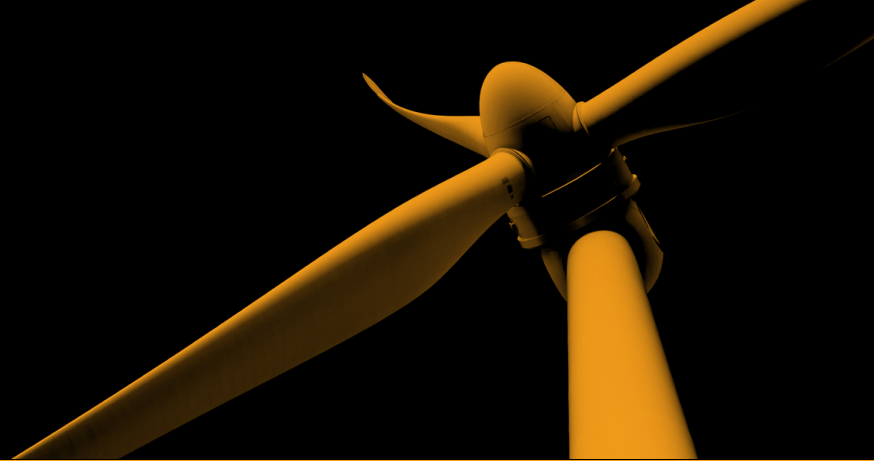


Installed  
capacity of up to  
**300MW**  
depending on turbine  
technology selected



up to  
**350 jobs**  
during peak  
construction





## Questions and Answers

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### **What stage is the Environmental Impact Assessment at?**

A Scoping Report was submitted to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) in February 2024 in order to request the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs), prior to the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIS). Once the SEARs have been received, ACEN Australia will undertake detailed environmental impact assessments for the project.

The EIS will include supporting technical studies including biodiversity, traffic and transport, noise, visual, historic and aboriginal cultural heritage, aviation, and social impact assessment. The assessments will inform the Project design along with ongoing community feedback.

The results of the assessments will be reported in an Environmental Impact Statement which will accompany the Project Development Application.

### **Would the turbines cause me any health problems related to electromagnetic fields?**

An electromagnetic field is a physical field produced by a moving electric charge that consists of both an electric field component and a magnetic field component. Electromagnetic field associated with the generation, distribution and use of electricity is classified as extremely low frequency electromagnetic field.

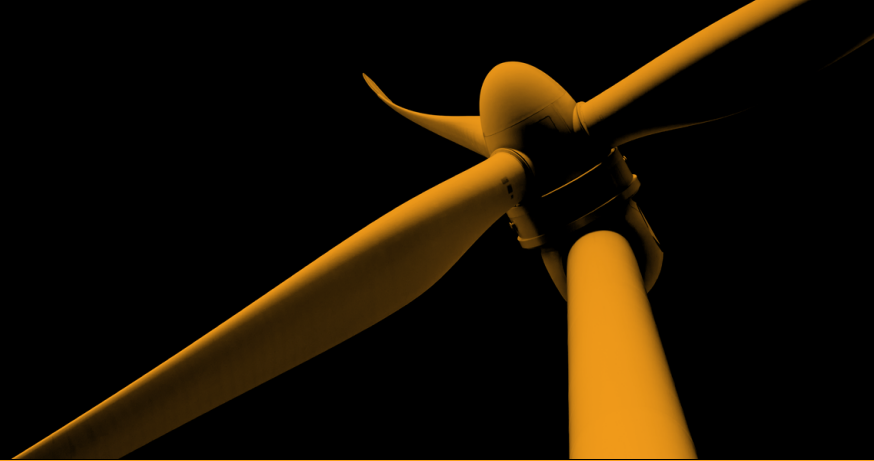
The risks to human health from electromagnetic field associated with the project are considered low.

### **Will the wind project impact telecommunications at my home?**

There is the potential for large structures, including wind turbines, to introduce interference when they occur close to or within the signal path.

An assessment of impacts will be carried out that identifies the existing radio, telecommunications and communications links within the region. Wind turbines are then sited to avoid impacting telecommunications links.





## Questions and Answers

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### **What impacts could the project have on bushfires and firefighting efforts?**

The Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council considers that wind projects are not expected to adversely affect fire behaviour, nor create major ignitions risks. Fire and land management agencies and wind project developers and operators have a shared interest in mitigating bushfire related risks.

Automatic shutdown and isolation procedures are installed within the wind turbine system.

Bushfire risk can be managed with the measures inherent to the project and those that are specific to the protection of life and safety from bushfire in accordance with the NSW Rural Fire Service policy Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019 including maintenance of asset protection zones and the provision of a dedicated water supply within the project area.

With these appropriate management and mitigation measures in place, wind energy projects are considered a low risk.

### **What impacts will the project have on aviation in the area?**

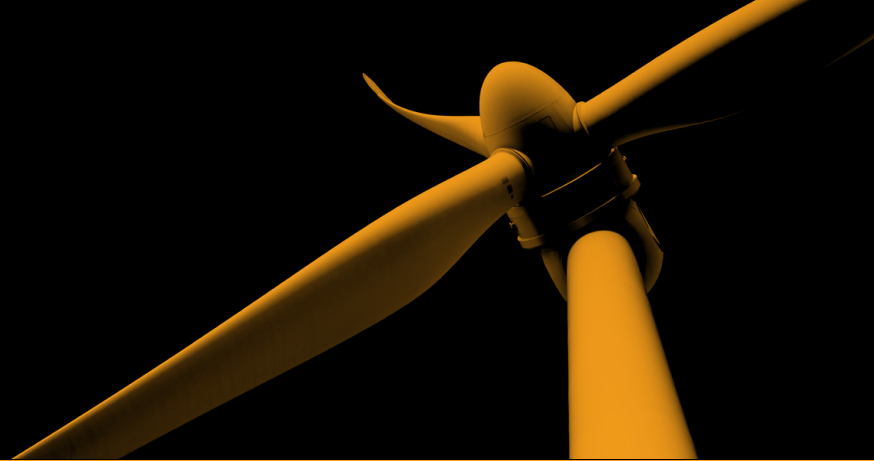
An Aviation Impact Assessment (AIA) will be undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment for the project which will identify potential for any aviation impacts of the project.

As part of the AIA, the project will work with local operators to understand current aviation activities (such as aerial spraying) to identify how impacts may be mitigated, for example through turbine shutdowns where appropriate.

### **Where will workforce for the project be accommodated?**

The project will consider workforce accommodation as it progresses through the planning process. Options could potentially include a dedicated workforce accommodation camp, or distribution of the workforce through local regional centres such as Dubbo and Orange.





## Questions and Answers

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### **What will the project look like from my house?**

The project will look different from every house or viewpoint. In some cases views of the wind project will be partially or fully screened by vegetation such as trees and terrain and in other cases views may be of individual or clusters of wind turbines.

To understand the potential visual impacts, the project will undertake detailed visual impact studies as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment process. This may include detailed visual assessments and representative photo montages showing what the project will look like from different viewpoints.

How will the project consider other renewable energy developments in the area?

A cumulative impact assessment will be undertaken, including projects in the nearby vicinity of Aquila.

### **What benefits will the project offer to the local community/residents?**

The project will share benefits with the local community, through measures such as implementation of a Planning Agreement with Dubbo Shire Council, ACEN's Social Investment Program in the local community and Neighbour agreements so that eligible properties receive a direct benefit.

ACEN Australia's Social Investment Program (SIP) is available to the Stuart Town community and surrounds. This is ACEN Australia's voluntary contribution available now and into construction of the project. Funding is available to not-for profit organisations and activities that directly benefit and enhance the liveability and vibrancy of the community. More information and a SIP Application Form can be found on our website at [www.aquilawind.com.au](http://www.aquilawind.com.au).

**We welcome your ongoing feedback on our project.**



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